

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 664

By McNally

A RESOLUTION relative to the bank stabilization project on  
Melton Hill Lake in the City of Oak Ridge,  
Anderson County.

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Ridge has promulgated a Waterfront Master Plan that provides for a phased approach for developing the Oak Ridge waterfront; and

WHEREAS, in the last three years, the City of Oak Ridge has begun implementation of the Waterfront Master Plan through a donation from UT Battelle to fund the construction of a large outdoor picnic pavilion; during the same period, the City used state and federal grant funds to construct an additional 2.5 miles of greenway trails along the waterfront; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Ridge is now positioned financially to take the next step in the Waterfront Master Plan and construct an additional rowing lane on Melton Hill Lake (Clinch River), recognizing the value of the rowing program not only to Oak Ridge, but to the region as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Ridge is presently conducting this project pursuant to the authority of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit No. 45534, which permits landward excavation at location mile 50.8R on Melton Hill Lake and the utilization of gabion baskets to stabilize the exposed shoreline; the proposed work would widen the existing rowing course by one lane in order to accommodate larger rowing events and compete for other national and international events; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Ridge has formally petitioned the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District for a three-year extension of Permit No. 45534; and

WHEREAS, the three-year extension would give the City of Oak Ridge sufficient time to prepare bid documents, bid the project, award a contract, and move forward with the widening of the rowing course; and

WHEREAS, the Melton Hill Lake course is recognized by the rowing community as one of the top five courses in the nation, and the cooperation that exists between local, state, and federal agencies in hosting rowing events is the envy of many larger venues throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, the planned course expansion would position the community to attract larger national events, thus increasing the financial impact on the region; and

WHEREAS, a three-year extension of Permit No. 45534 would allow the City of Oak Ridge to move forward in developing an attractive and inviting waterfront area and thus increase tourism and other economic development in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Valley Authority has expressed its support for the extension of the permit; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that this General Assembly expresses its support for a three-year extension of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Permit No. 45534 to provide the City of Oak Ridge sufficient time to complete the bank stabilization project on Melton Hill Lake that would ultimately widen the existing rowing course by one lane in order to accommodate larger rowing events, compete for other national and international events, and positively impact the region through increased tourism and economic development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District to approve the requested three-year extension of Permit No. 45534.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be transmitted to Regulatory Branch, Department of the Army, Nashville District Corps of Engineers, 3701 Bell Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37214.